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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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SECURITY INFORMATION

From the RHINE NECKAR ZEITUNG dated 22 January 1952

USSR HAS JET PROPELLED SUBMARINES

Escaped German Scientist confirms atom bomb production.

Stockholm (German Press Agency) - "I can confirm that atomic bombs are being produced in the Soviet Union for several months now", was declared by a German aircraft engineer residing at present in Stockholm, after a successful escape from the Soviet Union. The German engineer, whose name is withheld for security reasons, has been forcibly engaged by the the Soviets in October 1946. He published an article in the Stockholm Tidningen last Sunday, dealing with the development of the Soviet armament industry.

The article reads in part: "It became immediately clear to us German engineers that decisive progress was made in Russian atomic research during the year 1948. Materials used in the production of atomic bombs became scarce quite suddenly. Atomic research, from then on, not only laid claim to all pertinent raw materials, but also withdrew high grade precision measuring instruments from other fields of research. The atomic explosions reported some time ago were not caused by bombs, but by the stationary release of chain reactions with U-235".

The German engineer continues: "Not until the last few months has it become possible to produce atomic bombs in such numbers as to allow thoughts of stockpiling. Russia is still far behind the United States regarding mass production. The Russian's greatest difficulties exist in the isolation of isotopes and in the allocation of the tremendous quantities of energy needed in the production of heavy water".

The article further states: "The great research installations of the scientific leader of the atom industry, Professor Kapitza, are located in the Moscow district, but the real production centers are far beyond the Ural mountains".

The German specialist further related that the submarine fleet, whose development is based on German experimental types, has the highest priority in the naval armament program. Here too, the Russians are said to be at an important turning point. They are now thought to be ready for mass production of jet propelled submarines capable of attaining an exceptionally high underwater speed. Experiments with jet propelled torpedoes of very high velocity and radius have also reached a stage where an early start of mass production must be expected. The Soviet Navy is believed at present to number about 400 submarines; however, only about 60 of them are thought to be schnorkel-equipped.

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